

I strongly urge the commission to reject the "Joint Petition" cited in the cover sheet. Indiana's "Do Not Call" law has been effective in reducing the number of calls from telemarketers and solicitors from 5 or more a day, and increasing, (at all hours of the day - through meals, evenings, daytime) to two or three a week. This has made it possible to resume the use of the telephone for communication between people who already know each other - the lines are less often tied up, incoming calls are usually relevant and more likely to be answered.

The telemarketers' use of blind calling and automated dialing is particularly disruptive - I have answered many calls (even with the Indiana law in effect - presumably these are from the "exception" cases) to find no person at the calling end - since two of the callers many lines answered simultaneously. Caller Identification is no solution - it is readily blocked and, in any case, the line is tied up while the phone rings many times if not answered. Since the states do have the power to regulated the telephone companies, they should have the power to regulate the use - and especially the abuse - of the telephone system within the state. This form of consumer protection is vital to the continued health and usefulness of the telephone system.

Charles Peltier